I managed, however, during my stay to be closely in touch with one of the major cases and with almost all the parties involved. This case was used as the basis for the "social drama" analyzed in chapter three of the present study.

In addition to the social drama, I have used the case study method to analyze aspects of the substantive law of the group especially with regard to concepts such as that of criminal responsibility and the nature of the contractual relations as exemplified by the marriage contract. Cases utilized in the study include ones that I observed myself as well as cases taken from texts and some which were told to me by informants.

Most of the data was collected through the time-honored technique of participant observation which was facilitated by the fact that the group spoke the native language of the researcher (or vice versa). Formal interviewing was conducted on a very limited scale, thirty-five extensive questionnaires in all. These questionnaires were originally designed and administered to supplement the life history material and to assess the attitudes of the particular people involved with regard to particular issues. Some of the results of these questionnaires are used in the chapter. Due to the non-representation of the sample interviewed, these results are used merely as illustration and not as representing any kind of statistical frequency.

ENTRY TO THE FIELD

It is common among anthropologists to talk with nostalgia about their field experience and about the group they studied. This usually gives the impression that field work is always an enjoyable experience. Although my field work seems at the present time to have been a pleasant experience, especially when comparing it to the pressures of everyday living in a